

Additional Fees:

Enclosed herewith kindly find \$255.00 to cover the fees for three statutory disclaimer fees and a one month extension of time. No additional fees are believed to be required. However, should it be determined that any additional fees are due, please contact the undersigned attorney for immediate remittance of any such fees.

REMARKS

In the last Office Action, Claims 5 and 12 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-4 and 8-11 were rejected as being anticipated by Arnold '978. Claims 5-7 and 12-14 were rejected as being unpatentable over Arnold '978. Claims 1-14 were provisionally rejected as being unpatentable over claims 1-16 of copending application 10/638,192. Claims 1-14 were provisionally rejected as being unpatentable over claims 1-16 of copending application 11/130496.

By this response, claims 5 and 12 have been amended so that it is clear that the hardface coating material comprises an alloy with substantially no oxide forming constituents formed during said hot isostatic heat treatment process. Claim 10 has also been amended to insert "A" at the beginning of the claim. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of the claims based on indefiniteness has been overcome.

Terminal disclaimers have been filed to overcome the rejections based on Applicant's prior patent 6,049,978, and co-pending applications 10/638,192 and 11/130,496.

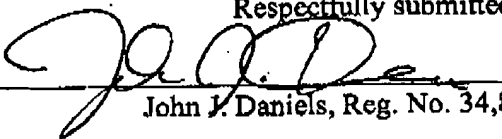
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In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and allowance of the claims of the application are most respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions or suggestions regarding the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

March 7, 2006


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CERTIFICATE of Facsimile

Date of Mailing: March 7, 2006

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being mailed faxed to the US Patent and Trademark office to fax number 571-273-8300:


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